

## Message Text

SECRET

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71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 /061 W

----- 006586

O 092210Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7186

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 2169

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: MOVEMENT OF ADDITIONAL SYRIAN FORCES INTO LEBANON

1. REPORTED MOVEMENT OF CONTINGENT OF SYRIAN FORCES TO LEBANON IN VICINITY OF MASNA BORDER POST IS NOW PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. ISRAELI ENGLISH LANGUAGE BROADCAST AT 1800Z 9 APRIL CARRIED NEWS AND FBIS, QUOTING IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, HAS CARRIED SIMILAR REPORT.

2. WE CANNOT CONFIRM USDAO BEIRUT REPORTING LAST COUPLE OF DAYS THAT MORE SYRIAN TROOPS MOVED INTO NORTH LEBANON VIA TRIPOLI.

3. AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL SIZE OF FORCES REPORTEDLY COMMITTED TODAY ARE NOT LARGE ENOUGH IN THEMSELVES TO ACCOMPLISH EITHER MAJOR MILITARY OR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES. WE ASSUME THESE MOVES HAVE TWO POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS.

A. MILITARY. PURPOSE MAY BE TO OCCUPY CRITICAL POINTS IN

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LEBANON TO PREPARE WAY FOR FUTURE COMMITMENT OF SIGNIFICANT

FORCES. WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE ON WHEN THIS MIGHT OCCUR.  
BUT IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL THAT THIS WOULD BE AFTER, AND ONLY  
IF, 10 APRIL LEBANESE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION FAILS.  
AND/OR

B. POLITICAL. PURPOSE MAY BE SIMPLE NOTCH UP EFFORT TO  
INTIMIDATE LEBANESE PARLIAMENTARIANS, GIVING CLEAR  
SIGNAL THAT 10 APRIL SESSION MUST PRODUCE CONCRETE  
RESULTS.  
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BUILDUP, ARMED FORCES, INTERVENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976DAMASC02169  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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